

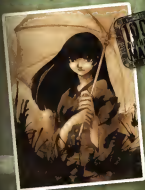
LAMENT *of the* LAMB



Volume 4 Kei Toume

LANETT & LAMB

Manga
Hanten Densetsu
US \$5.99



Chizuna has an unhealthy longing for her late father—and her fragile emotional state only serves to make her thirst for blood even stronger. Her brother Kazuma hopes to fulfill her needs by offering himself as nourishment. After all, he does remind Chizuna of Father, but her cravings might now be too extreme. Kazuma's growing anxiety about their condition causes him to push everyone away and isolate himself from the world. While being vampires has caused the siblings much pain and trauma, it has also brought them closer.

Perhaps too close...

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羊のうた ● 第4巻 ●

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Lament of the Lamb Vol. 4

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LAMENT *of the* LAMB™

VOL. 4

BY KCI TOUME



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

My name is Kajana Takashiro. When I was a child, my mother died and my father disappeared. He took my older sister, Chigusa, with him, but he left me behind, to be raised by his friends, the Tides. I grew up never knowing where my father and Chigusa had gone. One day, in our high school Art Club, I was hanging out with my friend, Yagashiki, when I caught sight of her blood-red paint. It filled me suddenly with strange, terrifying desires. Oddly enough, it re-kindled memories of my family's abandoned home. Soon after, I realized that home and was shocked to find Chigusa living there. Now reunited, my long-lost sister revealed to me the darkest secret of our Takashiro lineage—generations of our family have been under the curse of a strange disease. It causes an intense, vampire-like craving for blood. In shock and disbelief, I backed away into my old, routine life. But after I suffered another collapse, I sought out Chigusa again. Only, she found me. I was suffering horribly, and she soothed my vile cravings by feeding me her own blood. She also gave me a mysterious medicine to stave off future attacks, a serum that a doctor, Munaka, who was also an old friend of our father's, regularly smuggled in for her.

Chigusa told me how much she loved our father. But Chigusa insists that Father only returned her affections because she reminded him of our dead mother. Now I suspect that a lonely Chigusa looks to me to fill the emotional void left by father's suicide. When I confronted her, she broke down and insisted that she only wants to be by my side. Despite the Tides' disappointment, Chigusa and I are now living together. It's for the best. I can hide from the world, and everyone I love will be safer. But how safe am I? Being with Chigusa is an emotional minefield. And in my dreams, she's been killed by my hand several times. According to Chigusa, these nightmares are fueled by fear.

If anyone should be afraid, it's Yagashiki. While in the throes of yet another attack, I told her about my strange disease. She was terrified and confused, but rushed me to Munaka's hospital. I have the worst attacks when she's near me, and I have decided to completely avoid her. It will be difficult to keep her at arms length, since she cares so much about me. But I worry that she cares too much.





LAMENT *of the* LAMB

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YOU'RE
LOOKIN' A
BIT PALE
TODAY.

FOR AGE
EIGHT?



YES, I'M
ALREADY
FULL.

THAT'S
ALL
YOU'VE
GONNA
EAT?



KAGURA,
WOULD
YOU LIKE
SOME
MORE?

AM
SURE



I FEEL
FINE

DON'T
BE
SILLY



CAMIE,
HONESTLY,
YOU DIDN'T
SEEM ME
AS THE
TYPE

ABOUT
YOU BOY
COOLIES
AND ALL

EARLIER,
YOU
SURPRISED
ME WHEN
YOU
PRESENT
IT UP



THAT
SURE
CAME AS
QUITE A
SHOCK

WHAT
DUP?





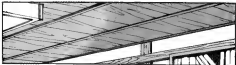
THIS
IS JUST
AS MUCH
YOUR HOME
AS MINE.
ISNT IT?

KAZUMA,
DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT



IF
THERE'S
SOME-
THING I
CAN DO,
I WANNA
DO IT.

IF I
DON'T...





PAP SAKE
LEFT A LOT OF
BOOKS HERE

ALL OF 'EM
MEDICAL
BOOKS



ALL I PACKED
WERE THOSE
LARGE TEXT-
BOOKS



I SHOULD'VE
BROUGHT
SOME
STUFF TO
READ FOR
FUN



NATIONAL HISTORY



What did
I bring
these for?

Text
books...



Maybe
I am.

Could
I be
having
regrets?

I suppose
Auntie and
Uncle would
think it was
strange if
I left them
behind.

TP



I can't
think
about
that
anymore.

When
the Fall
semester
starts up,
I'll
officially
drop out.



It'll be
summer
vacation
soon.

I
wonder
what
everyone's
up to.

I wonder
if anyone's
trying to
get ahold
of me,
since I
left so
suddenly.



I shouldn't be thinking these thoughts right now

It's too dangerous and depressing especially when I'm alone



What am I doing?



A picture





Monaka's
brothers hear
all her life.

Chigusa
looks
about
seven-
or eight
years
old.



He
doesn't
have
that
scar on
his eye
here.









HOW OFTEN
DO YOU HAVE
THEM?

YOU SAID
YOU HAD A
HEADACHE



YOU
REMEMBER
THOSE
TESTS YOU
CAME IN
FOR THE
OTHER
PART?

THE
RESULTS
CAME
BACK



HOW
AND
THEN

I THINK IT'S
THE HEAT.
THE SUMMER
ALWAYS DOES
THAT TO ME



AN
IMPORTANT
QUESTION

ABOUT
THE SERUM



AND I'M
WORRIED
ABOUT THE
PRELIMINARY
DATA

ALSO,
YOUR BLOOD
PRESSURE'S
TOO HIGH,
SO I'VE
BROUGHT YOU
SOMETHING
FOR THAT





I UNDER-
STAND

.....



BUT,
FOR NOW,
TRY REPLACING
THE DOSE YOU
DO TAKE,
ALL RIGHT?

I REALIZE
IT'S
PROBABLY
A FUTILE
REQUEST...



YOUR
HEART'S
NEAR
TO BEGIN
WITH

AND I SUSPECT
THE SCRAM
MIGHT DAMAGE
IT OVER A LONG
PERIOD



IT'S
WHEAT
TEAL, BUT
IF YOUR
EATING
HAVE---

I
BOUGHT
SOME
TEA



THANKS
DON'T GO OUT
OF YOUR WAY
I'M SURE
THIS WILL DO
JUST FINE





I WON'T
GO

WHAT I
MEAN IS...
I'M NOT GOING
TO SCHOOL
ANYMORE



GO AT
LEAST FOR
ROLL CALL,
WOULDN'T YOU?

EVEN IF YOU
WENT ONLY IN
THE MORNING,
YOU MIGHT
ENJOY IT.

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?



...YOU
WENT
TO GO,
WOULDN'T
YOU?

I HAVE A
FEELING...



I
THINK--

FOR WHAT
IT'S WORTH,
I THINK YOU
SHOULD GO



YOU SHOULDN'T
LOCK YOURSELF
UP ALL DAY

GET OUT FOR
SOME FRESH
AIR AND
EXERCISE



I'VE
ALREADY
TRIED
THAT

IT WAS
IMPOSSIBLE



WHO KNOWS?
MAKING THIS NEW
ENVIRONMENT WILL
ULTIMATELY HELP
GIVE YOU THAT
CONTROL

BUT FOR NOW,
ANYTHING'S
BETTER THAN
MOOPING AROUND
THE HOUSE



IN FACT,
GOING ABOUT
YOUR LIFE
NORMALLY
COULD ACTUALLY
BE VERY
BENEFICIAL

IT COULD
HELP YOU GAIN
CONTROL OVER
YOUR ATTACKS,
DON'T YOU
THINK?





HELL,
THEN.

I GUESS
I'LL BE
LEAVING.



DON'T
MENTION IT



I'M
SORRY,
MURRAY-
SAN.

I DO
APPRECIATE
YOUR HELP,
THOUGH.



IF YOU
NEED ME,
CALL THIS
NUMBER.



PLEASE
STOP BY
AGAIN.

I WILL
TAKE
CARE OF
MYSELF.



COME BY
AS USUAL
TO CHECK
ON THINGS.

THANKS.





SAY

...WHERE'S MIRASE-SAN FROM?



ARE YOU OKAY?

FOR THE
MOST
PART.



POKO-
MAMA.

HE LIVES
IN THE
CITY NOW,
THOUGH.

WHY DO
YOU ASK?



NOTHIN' IT'S
JUST... I WAS
IN DAD'S STUDY,
AND I FOUND
AN OLD PICTURE
WITH MIRASE-
SAN IN IT.

HOW LONG
HAVE YOU
KNOWN HIM?



AFTER THAT,
MIRASE-SAN
SPENT A LOT OF
TIME WITH US
HE LIVED IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD.

LET'S SEE WHEN HE
WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL,
HE CONTRACTED
PNEUMONIA, AND
IT BECAME LIFE-
THREATENING. FATHER
SAVED HIS LIFE, AND
THAT WAS THE
START OF IT.



HE WOULD
HELP ME
WITH MY
HOMEWORK

IT WAS LIKE
WE WERE
DINKING



HMM



HE WAS VERY
FOND OF FATHER.
PROBABLY
BECAUSE HIS
OWN FATHER WAS
SO YOUNG.

FATHER
TREATED
HIM LIKE HIS
OWN SON



I MEAN, WHAT
HE WAS SAYING
ABOUT GOING
TO SCHOOL

...I'D
HAVE TO
AGREE
WITH
MURASE-
SAN...

ANYWAY...

IF I GO
ABOUT MY
NORMAL LIFE, IT REALLY
HELPS

FOR
ME, NO
MATTER
HOW
DISAPPOINTED

EVEN IF
YOU'RE
NOT LIKE
NORMAL
PEOPLE...

YOU
SHOULD AT
LEAST GO
OUT

LIKE MIYASE-
SAN SAID, YOUR
ENVIRONMENT CAN
HAVE AN EFFECT
ON HOW YOU FEEL

JUST DON'T
WANT NORMAL
KIDS TO HELP
ME FORGET

—I LOVE
BEING
THERE

SCHOOL
FORCES ME
I DON'T MAKE
FRIENDS,
BUT...

IT'S
TERRIBLE
NOT
HAVING
CONTROL
OF MY
EMOTIONS

I DON'T
THINK I
HAVE THE
CONFIDENCE
TO FILL
IT OUT

I CAN SEE
HOW TRICKING
MYSELF MIGHT
HELP, BUT...

I KNOW
WHAT
YOU MEAN



A GUY LIKE
THAT DOESN'T
deserve
TO BE OUT
IN PUBLIC.

STILL, I DON'T
WANNA BE THE
PERSON WHO
USES HIS
BLINDNESS AS
AN EXCUSE.



YOU'RE
NOT THAT
DIFFERENT
FROM A
NORMAL
PERSON,
CHIZUNA.

EVEN IF
IT IS
THANKS
TO THE
MEDICINE.



WOULDN'T HE
ALLOWED TO
WANT AND WISH
FOR A LIFE
THAT SEEMS
NORMAL?



I JUST
SHOULDN'T
BE AT
SCHOOL.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT. I
HAVE NO
REGRETS.



THIS IS
MINE



WOULD
THE AGENTS
DISPERSE





I TRIED
TALKING HIM
INTO GOING
TO SCHOOL
BUT...

HE'S
AFRAID TO GO
I'VE GOT A
FEELING THERE
ARE OTHER
REASONS
BEHIND WHAT
HE TOLD US.



MINASE-
SAN...

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK IS
TRIGGERING
KAZUMA'S
ATTACK?



PERHAPS
SUFFERING
HIS SYMPTOMS
HAS TAKEN A
TOLL ON HIM.

GOD KNOWS
WHAT'S
CAUSING HIM
THIS DEGREE
OF ANXIETY.

MAYBE HE'S
WORRYING
TOO MUCH,
BUT...



YES
I MET
HER.



WHEN KAZUMA
ARRIVED AT
THE HOSPITAL,
THERE WAS A
GIRL WITH HIM.

MAYBE HIS
FEARS HAVE
SOMETHING
TO DO WITH
HER.



WHO?



THIS MAY HAVE NOTHING AT ALL TO DO WITH HER

BUT KAZUMA-KUN TOLD ME

THERE WAS ONE PERSON WHO ALWAYS TRIGGERED HIS SYMPTOMS



I DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST CLUE

I'M STILL PUTTING THIS ALL TOGETHER



I SIMPLY TOLD HIM HE'D BE BEST OFF TO COMPLETELY AVOID THAT PERSON, IF POSSIBLE

I WONDER IF SOMEONE THE KAZUMA KAZUMA DOESN'T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL



HE TOLD ME IT MIGHT BE BECAUSE HE HAD A DREAM ONCE ABOUT MEETING HER





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話







YOUR
ENVIRONMENT
CAN HAVE
AN EFFECT ON
HOW YOU FEEL.



YOU SHOULDN'T
KEEP YOURSELF
LOCKED UP
ALL THE TIME.









9-90
SHALL WE
GO TO
A POOL?
A WATER
PARK?

I-*I'M*
SORTA
SCARED
OF
THOSE WATER
SLIDES



THIS
IS YOUR
FORGOTTEN
SUMMER
VACATION

FORGET
ABOUT
FADING.
LET'S GO
HAVE SOME
FUN!



SORRY

YOU'RE
PROBABLY
NOT IN A
FADING
MOOD

WATER PARK?
YOU CAN
EASILY SWIM

IT'S OKAY
FOR T-SHEER
YOURSELF



SORRY,
EMI-CHAN

I KNOW
YOU'RE
TRYING
TO CHEER
ME UP



I WONDER
WHAT KIND
OF BLISS
HE HAS.



NO, I
LOOKED
FOR HIM IN
THE GYM,
BUT HE
WASN'T
AROUND.

TAKASHI-
KUN DIDN'T
COME TODAY?



Y-
YEAH.

I HOPE
IT'S NOTHING
SERIOUS.



THAT'S
TRUE.

I already
know
what's
wrong
with him.



DOESN'T
DO ANY GOOD
WORRYING
ABOUT IT.

WAS
DON'T YOU
GO OVER TO
HIS HOUSE
AND ASK?



I just
wonder how
Takeshi-
san is doing
right now.

I wish
I could talk
to him, but
I know
he'll just
avoid me.

But
I wasn't
not to tell
anyone!



But I was
so afraid of
what he'd
say to me.

I thought so
much about
telling him
after he left
the hospital!



KUROKITA-
KUN



YAGASHI-
SAN







Well,
it's okay
if he
doesn't
even talk
to me.

I just
want to
make sure
he's okay.



But...

Just
worrying about
him is killing
me. And it's
too painful
worrying for
him to come
to me.



What
do I
do?

If I go,
Takeshiwa-
san might
refuse to
see me.



But...

I don't
think I can
do this.



PLEASE DON'T
COME NEAR ME,
TAKASHIWA.







IF YOU SEE
HIM, TELL HIM
TO CALL ME

I'LL
LEAVE
THIS WITH
YOU. THEN
SEE YA



















*I'd have
to build
walls,*

*Having
friends
means
having
to keep
things
from them
—
Mr.
Down...
Mr.
Down...*

*I hate
seeing
those sad
and wounded
expressions.*



*In the end,
people just
end up
getting hurt.*

*But I
can't just
stand those
carefree
faces.*



*If I'd been
born normal,
I wonder if
I'd have lived
out that—
in
ghastly bliss.*







WHY ARE YOU
KEEPING IT FROM
EVERYBODY?
WHAT'S THE
STORY?

WHAT KIND
OF ILLNESS
IS IT?



8-80



YOU STILL
SICK?

YOU LOST
WEIGHT



I--
I'M
DROPPING
OUT.

ENDOWTA...

第

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話













IF I DO THIS
FOR YOU...





If I told him, it'd just depress him.

What would happen if I told him?

Even if he understood, what good would it do?



Is there anything he can do that'll change my situation?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

Would I feel any better if I had his sympathies?



YOU'RE CRUEL, MAN. WITH YOUR FACE SO PALE AND SERIOUS, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK.

SO... WHERE YOU TRANSFERRING?



OH? REALLY?

THEN YOU'RE NOT REALLY DROPPING OUT, YOU'RE TRANSFERRING?



ACTUALLY...

NOTHING.

I'M MOVING.









...



I JUST
CAME INTO HER
IN THE HALL,
AND SHE
LOOKED REALLY
WORRIED.

YOU CAN
JEK ME
AROUND,
BUT

BE
STRAIGHT
WITH HER.
AT LEAST



...

WELL, I TRIED
TAKE CARE
OF YOURSELF,
ALL RIGHT?







I'm fine
with that



One
by one,
they'll
go away



Telling
him
would
have
solved
nothing

They'll all
just get
wrapped up
in my
misery

It's best to
keep them
in the dark



His
feelings are
probably
still at
work.



Will he
even spend
a minute
of time
with me?

What if
Takahara-
kun's home
alone?



I'm just
having to drop
all papers
until tomorrow
school, right?



I
need
to
reply...









THERE'VE BEEN SOME DISAGREEMENTS

HE WON'T BE COMING BACK FOR A WHILE



.....



TAKASHIRO-KUN'S BEEN SICK, SO I WANTED TO KNOW HE WAS OKAY

OH

UHM



S-NO-THING

HE HADN'T SAID ANYTHING



UM, WHERE IS TAKASHIRO-KUN NOW?



YOU'RE TAKASHIRO-SAN?

HAS KAZUMA TOLD YOU ANYTHING? I THINK HE'S KEEPING SECRETS FROM US



WELL, YOU
KNOW THAT
HIS FAMILY
CIRCUM-
STANCES
ARE WELL
COMPLEX



That creepy girl?



WE ... UMM...
TAKASHIRO-
KUN'S SISTER--

I'VE HEARD
SHE'S RICH,
ALSO.



Doesn't
she have
the same
dress?



















*If
never see
Tsubaki...
then again*



*What
more does
I do?*

*If I do
nothing,
everything I
care about will
just fade
away*







...KATSUMI'S OLDER SISTER
WE MET IN THE
HOSPITAL, DIDN'T WE?

Y-YOU
ARE

HERE,
WIPE YOUR
TEARS



IS THIS YOUR
WAY HOME
FROM SCHOOL?



AH...
I'M ALL
RIGHT

I'LL BE
FINE



I'M NO
TODAY, I...

.....

I'll want
to ask
her about
Tetsuya-
kun.

But...
do I dare
approach
him?



If I said
that, how
would she
react?

I know about
your illness.

AH, I'M
YAGASHI.

YOUR
NAME.
WHAT
WAS IT
AGAIN?

UHM









第

24

話





BUT
I CALLED AN
AMBULANCE

TAKASHIO-
KUN SAID
HE WANTED
ME TO STAY
AWAY FROM
HIM



TAKASHIO-
KUN LOOKED
LIKE HE WAS
IN SO MUCH
PAIN



IN
THAT
SO...?

I... I DIDN'T
KNOW WHAT
TO DO



WHEN

HAD
TAKASHIO-
KUN OKAY
AFTER
THAT?



HE GOT HIS
LEFT. HE'S
FEELING MUCH
BETTER NOW

HE COULDN'T
MAKE IT TO
HIS CLOSING
CEREMONY AT
SCHOOL, BUT
HE'S FEELING
BETTER





YAE-
CASHI-
SAN

DO YOU
KNOW...

ABOUT
KAZUMA'S
DISEASE?



YES



AR-ISA



...I'LL
NEVER
TELL
ANYONE!

I
SWEAR!

NOT...
NOT I
SWEAR...

YOU
PO,
DON'T
YOU?

OUR MOTHER WAS
CONSIDERED
BY IT.

OUR BLOOD
WAS PASSED
DOWN THROUGH
GENERATIONS
OF
TAKASHIMOTO.



I BELIEVE
YOU.



HE HAS
ALMOST NO
MEMORIES
OF HIS REAL
FAMILY.

UNTIL
RECENTLY,
HE KNEW
NOTHING OF
OUR LITTLE
BURDEN.



WE THOUGHT
HE WAS
SPARED THE
TAKASHIMOTO
DYSLEPSIA.

KADAMA
HAD LEFT
WITH THE
GOAT'S WHEN
HE WAS AN
INFANT.





KAZUMA
RECENTLY HAVING
ATTACKS

BUT...



HE FELL
OUT WITH HIS
NORMAL LIFE
ISOLANT.



THEN, ONE
DAY, KAZUMA
FOUGHT OUT
HIS FAMILY
HOME

THE
TAKASHIRO
BLOOD
AWAKENED
OLD MEMORIES
WITHIN HIM



IT'S
THERE THAT
HE WERE
REUNITED



WE DIDN'T
BELIEVE HE
AT FIRST

I DIDN'T
EXPECT
HIM TO

I TOLD HIM
ABOUT THE
TAKASHIRO
LINEAGE,
ABOUT MY
FAMILY
I TOLD HIM
EVERY-
THING



SOME-
THING
THAT
MODERN
MEDICINE
CAN'T
CURE

A
TERRIBLE
DISEASE
THAT'S
CURSED
THE TADA-
KAWA
LINEAGE



IT SOUNDS
FAR-FETCHED



A DISEASE
THAT MAKES
US DRINK
THE BLOOD OF
OTHERS

WE'RE JUST
LIKE VAMPIRES,
AREN'T WE?



THAT'S
WHY IT'S
CRUCIAL
YOU KEEP
AWAY
ABOUT IT

IF IT WERE
KNOWN THAT
PEOPLE ARE
UP HERE

EVERYBODY
WOULD
CONSIDER US
FATHERS.
WOULDN'T
THEY?

IN ANY
CASE



I NEVER
WANT YOU TO
SEE KAZUMA
AGAIN



Y-
YES
OF
COURSE

OH
AND



IT'S BEST
IF YOU DON'T
GET CLOSE

WE'RE
DANGEROUS,
KAZUHA
AND I

THAT'S
HOW IT
HAS
TO BE



HE'S
SCARED
OF
HIMSELF

HE'S
SCARED
THAT HE'LL
HURT
SOMEONE



I—

I'M NOT
AFRAID



KAZUHA—

FEARS
YOU



DO NOT
PURSUE
HIM









WE LIVE
IN ISOLATION,
AND IT FEELS
WE'RE LIVING
ON A KNIFE'S
EDGE...

ONE
FALSE STEP,
AND WE CUT
OURSELVES
IN TWO



ABOUT
WHAT LIES
AHEAD



PLEASE
DON'T GET
CLOSE TO
US

OUR PARENTS
DIED, AND WE
WERE LEFT
THIS WAY



WE WANT
THIS HORRIBLE,
WRETCHED
LIFE AS TO BE
WITH US





WHAT CAN
YOU DO,
LITTLE GIRL?



I WANT
TO HELP
TAKASHIRO-
KUN

EVEN SO,
I...



ONLY I
CAN HEAL
KAZUNA...

SINCE ONLY
I CAN FEEL
HIS PAIN...

AND ONLY
I CAN
PROTECT
HIM





DON'T COME
NEAR ME!

I... I DON'T
WANT TO
HURT YOU

I'M AFRAID
OF WHAT I
MIGHT DO.







He's
protecting
that girl by
staying away
from her.

It's not over yet.



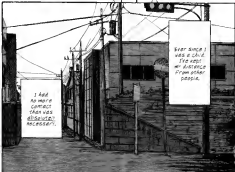
And
her side
wants to
die.

She
looks so
familiar...



Wasn't
that...

Trust
other
people?



Ever since I
was a child,
I've kept
my distance
from other
people.

I had
no more
contact
than was
absolutely
necessary.





I WANT
TO HELP
TAKASHI-
KUN



I'LL WAIT
AS LONG AS
IT TAKES



After all,
my goal is
different
from
everyone
else's.













It's been
a while
since I
had that
dream.



My
earliest
memory of
Chigusa.









...I'VE BEEN
DREAMING
OF HER ALL
THE TIME

...TO LOOK
LIKE HER.
I'VE ALWAYS
REMEMBERED
MOTHER,
BUT...



SITTING
ON THIS PORCH
AND STAREING
INTO THE
NIGHT...

THEY'RE
ALWAYS A
BIT HAZY...
BUT I SEE
HER...



IT HAD BEEN
A WHILE SINCE
I DREAMED
ABOUT HER
IT'S SO WEIRD



FURRY!
I HAVE THE
SAME DREAM
EVERY NOW
AND THEN



ANY-
ONE



ARE YOU
OKAY?

...IT'S TIME I
LET PINKIE
STARTED.



I'M
FINE



ALL
IT'S JUST
YOU LOOK
PALE IS ALL



IS IT
THE
HEART

IT'S NOT
IDENTITY
THIS AGE,



IT'S LIKE
I'M IN A
FAIRY-
DREAM.

I'm really
feeling
it though.



I'M WORRIED
ABOUT THE
PRELIMINARY
DATA



...but my
strength
is fading
from me.

I
don't
want
this...



I'LL TAKE
CARE OF
THE FISHES

IF YOU DON'T
FEEL WELL, GO
LIE DOWN IN
YOUR ROOM

OH
AH...

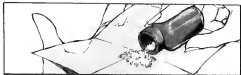
CHIZURU?



DON'T WORRY
ABOUT ME

AH—I'M
FINE—









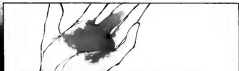
What
am I
doing?



UGH...

EH...







FATHER!



YOU HIDE
NOTHING BUT
MY PAIN



FORGIVE ME.

CHIZUNA...



I'LL FORGET YOU.

NO MATTER WHAT.

LIAR!





UNDER
ANDREAS' FEET
THERE IS A PEARL
ROOF...

CHORDA









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IT'S GOT
NOTHING
TO DO WITH
PROTECT-
ING
DON'T
EVEN THINK
OF IT THAT
WAY



TO
PROTECT
YOU

I'M
SUP-
POSED



HMP
HARDLY
YOU SAID
ANYTHING
TO ME?



WE CAN
SUPPORT
EACH OTHER
AND BE WITH
EACH OTHER.

YOU
GOT
THAT?

YOU'RE
HERE TO
PROTECT
ME.

I DECIDED
TO LIVE HERE.
SO...



KADUNA



EVEN IF IT'S
THE ONLY
THING THAT
GIVES YOU
REASON TO
LIVE...

ALWAYS
BE WITH
ME.



PLEASE...

KEEP ME.



FATHER...









YOU'RE
RIGHT









WHEN YOU
COLLAPSED
IN THE PARK,
SHE WAS
THE REASON.
WASN'T SHE?

SHE
KNOWS OUR
SECRET.



IF YOU SEE
HER, YOUR
SYMPTOMS
WILL COME
BACK.

ISN'T THAT
WHY YOU
PUSHED HER
AWAY?



HOW
TOUCHING.



HOW
LONGER
FOR YOU.

THAT'S
ENOUGH!

LET
GO OF
ME!



AND YET
SHE WANTS
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN.

SO, CONGRAT-
ULATIONS ON
MANIPULATING
A VULNERABLE
LITTLE GIRL.

**I'LL
NEVER
LET GO!**









IN PLACE OF
THE MAN WHO,
IN THE END
COULDN'T EVEN
LOOK AT ME

I'M
TRYING
TO FIND
YOU



FATHER
CONTROLLED
ME, MY MIND
AND BODY

EVEN NOW,
AFTER HIS
DEATH



I THOUGHT
I COULD
Wipe THOSE
FEELINGS OUT
BY HAVING
HIM

BUT, AFTER
I MET YOU,
ALL THOSE OLD
FEELINGS CAME
FLUSHING BACK



THAT'S
RIGHT

I SEE YOU
AS FATHER

YOU
REPLACE HIM
IN MY EYES



IN THE END,
I BEHAVED
LIKE FATHER,
HUNTING
ALL OF YOU.

AND I
WANTED TO
SAVE YOU.
WHAT AM
I DOING?



BUT I
DON'T
CARE.

I HATE MY
FEELINGS AND
MY ACTIONS.

THERE
IT IS.



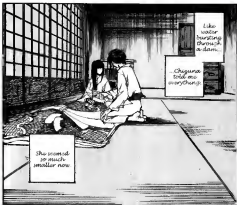
I DON'T
CARE IF I
WAS JUST
HIS PULL.



I
WANTED
TO BE WITH
FATHER.

I
JUST...

... IF I WAS
JUST HIS
REPLACEMENT
FOR MOTHER.





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YOU LOOK A
BIT THINNER
SINCE I LAST
SAW YOU

WHERE
YOU
EATING?



I HAVE
NO APPETITE
IT'S ALWAYS
LIKE THAT
DURING THE
HOT SEASON

BUT I'M
ALL RIGHT,
DON'T WORRY

NO MATTER
HOW HARD
I TRY,
I CAN'T
REPRESS IT.

IN THE PAST,
I HAD BETTER
CONTROL.

MINASE-SAN,
YOU TOLD ME
TO GO EASY
ON IT...

BUT

BUT?

AND NOW
ABOUT THE
MEDICINE?

WHEN YOU HAD
A RELAY SOURCE
OF BLOOD, THERE
WAS A SENSE
OF RELIEF... AND
SECURITY.

IT WAS
EASIER TO
BALANCE YOUR
SPIRIT THEN,
I BELIEVE.

THAT'S
BECAUSE YOUR
FATHER WAS
AROUND.

NO, HE'S
SEEMED
PERFECTLY
NORMAL
THESE DAYS.

HAS HE
HAD ANY
ATTACKS
LATELY?

IT'S A
SERVICE
YOU'RE
PROVING
FOR KAZARU-
SAN, ISN'T
IT?

I'D LIKE
TO RUN
ANOTHER
TEST.

WILL YOU
COME BY THE
HOSPITAL
TOMORROW?

IS
THAT SO?
IN THAT
CASE...

ALL
RIGHT.

THE PROBLEM
SEEMS TO BE
AT FOUR AND
THAT'S WHAT
I THINK.

WONAO-
SAMI?













WOULDN'T
ABANDON YOU
LIKE DAD DID

I...



BUT WITH MY
EYES, IT'S
YOU WHO'S
PROTECTING
ME, ISN'T IT?

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT I'M
GOOD FOR...

...BUT FOR
WHAT IT'S
WORTH...







LATE
LAST
NIGHT...

SHE
COMPLAINED
OF CHEST
PAINS AND SAID
IT HAPPENS
OCCASIONALLY

SO,
WHAT DO
PA THINK?

WHEN DID
CHILDRA-
KUN'S
CONDITION
START TO
WORSEN?

WHEN I
OFFERED TO
CALL YOU.

SHE SAID
"NO," AND
SAID YOU'D
WORRY

AND WHAT
ABOUT HER
NORMAL
ATTACKS?

I'VE NEVER
SEEN HER
HAVE ONE



YOU UNDERSTAND
IT'S NOT
SOMETHING YOU
CAN GO OUT
AND BUY AT THE
PHYS STORE...

I CAN'T EVEN
PRODUCE IT
IF I WANTED
TO



IT DOESN'T
WORK FOR
EVERYBODY



I
JUST
THOUGHT

...IT'S
BECAUSE OF
THAT 'SPECIAL
MEDICINE' YOU
GET FOR HER

SHE OFFERED
ME SOME TOO,
BUT...



LATELY,
I'VE BEEN
EXPERIMENTING
WITH MORE
STABLE
COMPOUNDS.
IT IS A
PSYCHOTROPIC
DRUG

IT'S A
HIGH-POTENCY
TRANQUILIZER
I MADE IT
MYSELF FROM
A SPECIFIC
COMPOUND
YOU TAKE
TOO MUCH
OF IT,
AND YOU'RE
GONE AS
DEAD









CHI-
ZUNA'S

COULD
THAT
BE...?

ORIGINAL
ATTACHMENT
TO FATHER...



THAT'S
HOW IT
WAS WITH
CHIUNA-
KUN

IN HER
FATHER, SHE
SAW SOMEONE
WHO LOOKED AT
HER AS A FAIR
REFLECTION
OF HIS DEAD
WIFE

FOR THAT,
SHE REPORTED
HIM, AND SHE
CLEANED HER-
SELF FOR LOOK-
ING MORE AND
MORE LIKE HER
MOTHER EVERY
DAY

"LOVE-
HATE."

THOSE RELA-
TIONSHIPS
DO EXIST,
PORT THEM?



NO ONE
COULD GET
BETWEEN
THEM

NO ONE



CHIDANA

SHE'S STILL
HAUNTED BY
THAT PAIN



I WISH
I COULD DO
MORE FOR
HER

I'M SO
SORRY



WHAT
ARE HER
OPTIONS?

SO, IF THE
MEDICINE'S
TOO STRONG
AND OTHER
PEOPLE'S
BLOOD IS
USELESS TO
HER...





I THOUGHT
WHAT YOU'RE
THINKING SO
MANY TIMES.



IF THERE
WAS A WAY TO
PULL
HER AWAY,
BELIEVE
ME...

...IT WOULD
BE LONG AGO.

BESIDES,
YOU'RE IN NO
POSITION
TO HELP
CHISUNA-KUN.



...I HAVEN'T
HAD ANY
ATTACHES
LATELY,
SO...

IT'S OUT
OF THE
QUESTION

MAYBE
NOT NOW,
BUT...



PULLING HER
HEART AWAY
FROM HER
FATHER IS NO
SMALL FEAT.

I OBSERVED
THE INTENSITY
OF THEIR
RELATIONSHIP
FOR OVER TEN
YEARS.







SLEEP
TIGHT!

ALL
RIGHT

Manager
just
tried
but
couldn't.



THEN I'M
OFF TO BED.

GOODNIGHT



KAZUHA



AM
OH.
I'LL
FALL
ON THE
BATH



Chigasaki
and the
new
Murasaki-san
were
once like
siblings.

I wonder
if she feels
closer to
him than
to me,
her real
brother.



FALLING
NOT NEARLY
AWAY FROM
HER FATHER
WAS A
SMALL FEAT.

I
CHALLENGED
THE
SECURITY
OF THAT
RELATION-
SHIP OVER
TEN YEARS.



Yes...

...I have
this need
to be with
her and
protect
her



Is it
because
we were
raised
separately?

We
don't
feel
like a
family



I...

...don't
feel like
she's my
sister
at all



Because
I felt those
helpless
trembling
shoulders?

Is it
because she
revealed
her true
feelings
for me
last night?



FATHER
CONTROLLED ME
MY MIND AND BODY.



"LOVE-HATE" THOSE
RELATIONSHIPS EXIST.
DON'T THEY?



I'm a
replacement.



*She's
haunted
by Father
still.*

*Is she just
trying to soothe
her pain by
making me her
replacement?*



*Is my
being
here...*

*really
helping
her?*



WHAT'RE
YOU UP
TO?



KAZUNA









ARE YOU
HAVING
AN
ATTACK?



Aaargh!

IT FEELS
DIFFERENT
THAN
BEFORE!

LOSING...
CONSCIOUSNESS!
MY MIND'S
GOING CRAZY!



Ugh...

Gya--!







Chigusa and I share almost everything- the same cursed disease that drove our parents to their graves- the same haunted home- the same despair- and the same bleak fate. And it sickens me to admit this, but we have shared things not meant for brothers and sisters. My actions are unfathomable to me, and yet completely inescapable. We are shackled together by a chokingly tight, dark bond.

My only wish is that Chigusa would let me share my blood. I just want to ease her burden- she freely- almost gleefully- lets me feed from her, but she steadfastly refuses to take a single drop from my willingness. Why does she resist? Is she finally admitting that her twisted relationship with me too closely mirrors the one she had with father? Is she trying to somehow release herself from father's emotional grip?

Whatever her reason, I am starting to feel overwhelmed by her illness. Minase-san refuses to supply her with the serum, and I fear I am powerless to control her attacks. Our situation is hopeless. With or without treatment, she's going to weaken. Her days- and more- are numbered. So, when will Tsugashiro and the Idols stop trying to re-enter my sad excuse for a life? When will they just realize I'm as good as dead?